



## Weekly Weather Crop Report



In cooperation with

Mississippi Department of  
Agriculture and Commerce

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Week Ending October 23, 2005

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According to the National Agricultural Statistics Service in Mississippi, there were 6.8 days suitable for fieldwork for the **week ending October 23, 2005**. As harvesting of crops across the state continues, the lack of rain and the resulting dry conditions across the state are impacting winter planting. Cattle producers are very concerned about the lack of adequate pasture growth and the need for moisture to plant and properly germinate ryegrass and other cool-season forages. Hay continues to be fed as needed and supplies for the winter are slowly being depleted. Sweetpotato growers are benefitting from the dry soils and harvesting is ahead of schedule. Soil moisture was rated 60 percent very short, 28 percent short, and 12 percent adequate.

Progress In Percentages						Conditions in Percentages				
Item	Event	This Week	Last Week	2004	5-Yr Avg	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Cotton	Open Bolls	100	99	100	100	--	--	--	--	--
	Harvested	89	74	77	73					
Rice	Harvested	99	97	99	97	--	--	--	--	--
Soybeans	Harvested	97	95	97	86					
Sweetpotatoes	Harvested	90	80	78	84	--	--	--	--	--
Cattle						16	29	31	19	5
Pasture						34	39	19	8	0

### County Agent Comments

"Almost all crops have been harvested, and growers are preparing the ground for next year."

— Don Respass, Bolivar

"Crops are out of the field and farmers are rowing up."

— Jimbo Burkhalter, Tallahatchie

"Producers have been busy all week harvesting crops. Cooler temperatures are expected this week."

— Melvin Oatis, Benton

"The harvest is just about wrapped up for the year."

— Kay Emmons, Montgomery

"'DRY!'— that's about all you can say. Winter forage fields and plots are in desperate need of rain! I guess we will have to just wait and see what comes up when we get a rain and determine what has to be replanted or, in some cases, planted."

— Houston Therrell, Rankin

"Harvesting is moving quickly. Some soybeans are still too green to cut due to green stalks. On Monday we had a good frost and the low temps will slow down any dessication treatments still going out. Sweetpotato harvest needs another 3 weeks, but soil conditions are excellent for digging."

— Dr. Bill Burdine, Chickasaw

“DRY! We need some rain. The situation is OK for completion of the harvest activities, but the winter grazing grasses are being affected in a big way. The winter wheat is also showing serious negative signs from the lack of rain.”

— Bill Maily, Hinds

“Conditions are very dry. Some farmers are feeding hay at this point to offset the lack of grass for grazing. Ryegrass is being planted but we have no moisture to get grass up and going.”

— Perry Brumfield, Lincoln

“Most parts of county have not received any significant rainfall since Katrina! Severe dry weather is delaying ryegrass planting and growth for those already planted!”

— Tommy Bishop, Jasper

“Cotton harvest is going quickly; however, soil moisture is also gone! Pastures are drying up and ryegrass is starting to die. We need rain!”

— Stephen R. Winters, Grenada

“Soybean harvest is near completion and cotton harvest is progressing rapidly. Wheat planting is delayed due to dry conditions.”

— Jay Phelps, Pontotoc

“The beautiful weather has allowed most producers to complete their harvest and make excellent progress on fall tillage work with many fields now prepared for the spring season.”

— Jerry Singleton, Leflore

“Harvesting for 2005 is winding down and additional fieldwork is being used to prepare for the 2006 crop.”

— Tommy Baird, Sunflower

“We have been fortunate to have good weather for the harvest. Another two weeks like this should wrap up this year's harvest. The downside is that there is inadequate soil moisture to germinate winter crops.”

— Ernest Flint, Attala

“We are getting extremely dry. This has not hampered harvest, but ryegrass planting and cool- season pastures are suffering for it.”

— Ed Williams, Oktibbeha

“A lack of soil moisture is destroying what is left of summer grass pastures and preventing beef and dairy producers from planting cool-season forages. The body condition of many beef cattle is thin; milk production in dairy cattle is dropping rapidly. We need rain.”

— Lamar Adams, Walthall

“Grass is short and cattle are dropping weight; the hay supply will be tight. Ryegrass will be late this year due to drought. The sad news is that there is no rain in the forecast.”

— Chuck Grantham, Jones

“A lack of rainfall continues to be a major problem. Peanut and cotton producers have benefitted with harvest completed without delay. Beef cattle producers are feeding hay and feed at this point and the outlook for winter is very bleak with no ryegrass planted at this time.”

— Florieda K. Mason, Perry

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# Weather Summary from October 17, 2005 to October 23, 2005 for Mississippi

District/Station	Air Temperature					Precipitation				4 Inch Soil Temperature			Avg Pan Evap
	Max	Min	Avg	Norm	DFN	One Week	DFN	Rain Days	Four Weeks	Max	Min	Avg	
1. Upper Delta													
Cleveland	90	45	67	62	+5	0.00	-0.58	0	1.66				
Lambert	89	45	66			0.00	-0.70	0	1.49				
Tunica	89	48	68	61	+7	0.04	-0.75	1	1.00				
Extreme/Average	90	45	67	62	+5	0.01	-0.73	0	1.38				
2. North-Central													
Calhoun City	87	39	65	61	+4	0.00	-0.65	0	1.51				
Hickory Flat	88	40	64	59	+5	0.00	-0.73	0	1.75				
Independence	88	40	64	59	+5	0.00	-0.68	0	1.77				
Oxford	90	42	66	59	+7	0.00	-0.86	0	3.32				
Extreme/Average	90	39	65	60	+5	0.00	-0.78	0	2.09				
3. Northeast													
Booneville	88	48	66	59	+7	0.00	-0.75	0	4.40				
Iuka	84	35	61	57	+4	0.00	-0.78	0	2.07				
Ripley	86	40	63	58	+5	0.00	-0.74	0	1.72				
Tupelo						0.00		0	2.06				
Verona	89	43	65	60	+5	0.00	-0.65	0	2.48				
Extreme/Average	89	35	64	60	+4	0.00	-0.75	0	2.55				
4. Lower Delta													
Moorhead	90	49	68	64	+4	0.00	-0.74	0	0.19				
Rolling Fork	92	45	71	63	+8	0.00	-0.91	0	0.03				
Stoneville				63		0.00	-0.73	0	0.10				
Yazoo City	89	45	67	64	+3	0.00	-0.98	0	2.00				
Extreme/Average	92	45	69	63	+6	0.00	-0.85	0	0.58				
5. Central													
Canton	88	41	65	63	+2	0.00	-0.80	0	2.43				
Carthage	88	41	64	62	+2	0.00	-0.74	0	1.60				
Eupora	87	39	64	60	+4	0.00	-0.81	0	3.42				
Lexington	88	41	65	62	+3	0.00	-0.82	0	1.67				
Extreme/Average	88	39	64	62	+2	0.00	-0.80	0	2.28				
6. East-Central													
Aberdeen	88	44	65	61	+4	0.00	-0.84	0	4.86				
Houston	87	38	63	59	+4	0.00	-0.71	0	2.41				
Philadelphia	89	42	65	62	+3	0.00	-0.79	0	1.71				
State University				61		0.00	-0.75	0	2.14				
Extreme/Average	89	38	64	62	+2	0.00	-0.75	0	2.90				
7. Southwest													
Crystal Springs	91	47	69	65	+4	0.00	-0.70	0	0.83				
Natchez	88	44	66	65	+1	0.00	-0.90	0	0.00				
Oakley	90	43	68	63	+5	0.00	-0.80	0	3.50				
Vicksburg	87	46	68			0.00		0	1.34				
Extreme/Average	91	43	68	64	+4	0.00	-0.81	0	1.44				
8. South-Central													
Collins				63		0.00	-0.78	0	0.00				
Columbia	89	48	69	65	+4	0.00	-0.77	0	0.07				
Tylertown	89	43	68	66	+2	0.00	-0.86	0	0.00				
Extreme/Average	89	43	68	64	+4	0.00	-0.77	0	0.04				
9. Southeast													
Beaumont						0.00		0	0.21				
Hattiesburg	90	45	70	65	+5	0.00	-0.79	0	0.36				
Laurel	89	45	67	63	+4	0.00	-0.70	0	1.78				
Newton	88	37	63	61	+2	0.00	-0.79	0	2.98				
Extreme/Average	90	37	66	63	+3	0.00	-0.71	0	1.66				
10.Coastal													
Gulfport				68		0.00	-0.51	0	0.00				
Poplarville				66					0.00				
Waveland				66									
Extreme/Average				67		0.00	-0.63	0					
State	92	35	66	63	+3	0.00	-0.76	0	1.70				

DFN = Departure from Normal.